

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

INDIANAPOLIS, SUNDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 25, 1900.

PRICE FIVE CENTS.

L. S. Ayres & Co.

INDIANA'S GREATEST DISTRIBUTERS OF DRY GOODS

Just Store Talk That's All....

But wonderful how it dovetails into the fashion literature of the day. A little style is good for the best of us and a bit of economy doesn't hurt the wealthiest.

The Ayres store has long kept one aim—one ideal—in view, namely, to be first on the market with fashion's fairest fancies and to price them in a way to compel your confidence.

Panne Velvet

Who can describe its richness, its luster, its elegance? Who can resist its beauty? Panne is to fabrics what gold is to precious metals, and what the diamond is among gems. France submitted it to the world; fashion honored it with unmistakable approval and womanhood has accepted it with real delight. More now than ever to show you.

IN PLAIN COLORS—

Light Blue, Pink, Turquoise, Rose, Heliotrope, Mauve, Lavender, Yellow, Scarlet, Black, Cerise, White and Pearl Gray. \$3.50 a yard.

IN FANCIES—

Persian and other rare printed effects at \$4.50

Carreau Silks

A novelty, certainly, but a very charming one.

What we show are prettily-figured foulards about 33 inches square. The quality is excellent and the designs most appropriate for their purpose—shirt waists.

Three squares make a waist, each, one dollar.

Foulards

You are rid of one unmistakable worry when choosing a foulard. All foulards wear well—at least all those that sell for a dollar a yard or more.

Moreover, foulard makes a most comfortable and thoroughly useful gown.

As to designs and colorings, ours excel in a regard most important. Every style we show is new and of individual selection. We've seen to it that all those dainty pastel shadings should be represented, then picked some of the prettiest darker tints and brightened the whole with clever Persian and novelty printings.

\$1 for Twilled and Plain Weaves.

\$1.10 for Lustrous Liberty Foulards.

Night Robes

The woman who doesn't use care and taste in the selection of these necessary garments is the exception, not the rule. Some carry extravagance to the extreme and willingly pay \$5, \$6 and \$7 for particularly dainty affairs of nainsook and lace. These appended prices are not for them but rather for those who demand a reasonable amount of goodness and tasty decoration. We head the list with those excellent empire cambric gowns at 69c

There are three styles, all long and full, and neatly finished, with a tucked round yoke and narrow lace insertion; choice 69c

There's a low-neck Gown also that is in high favor, groups of tucks are prettily set in embroidery, excellent value at 95c

Perhaps a simpler style, but with greater wearing quality, is more to your liking. If so, we recommend one of Simon Stern's fine Muslin Gowns. It is made with embroidery and tucks at neck and sleeves and is, withal, thoroughly good 89c

We've recently replenished our stock of lower-priced Gowns.

Three styles at 50c

Another of Muslin, with square yoke and ruffled and tucked sleeves and neck; this 30c

Spring Suits

Styles switch around in a way most puzzling; and yet, withal, the changes now to be recorded are more of an evolution than a radical departure from recent models.

The skirt still clings but the tendency is to crowd more material into the back breadths. The Windsor is a decided favorite.

Coats are almost all close fitting and decidedly short. Some of the Eton styles scarcely reach the belt; others extend scarcely to exceed three inches below it.

As to materials, cheviot continues a prime favorite, but novelty mixtures and not a few home-spun demand attention. English venetians and worsteds prevail among the higher-priced costumes. A few prices:

AT \$10.00—Costumes of Black Cheviot Serge, made with short, half-fitting, fly-front Coat—Suits that will compare well with many of the \$15 kind.

AT \$12.75—Homespun Suits that are strictly all wool, made with tight-fitting, single-breasted Jacket and Windsor Skirt. Four colorings—Blue, Brown, Gray and Oxford.

AT \$14.75—Eton style, of Homespun; Skirt and Jacket are both trimmed with Applique of Black Taffeta. Looks a full \$20 worth.

AT \$22.50—A wonder of value, this; tight-fitting Jacket and new shape Skirt, made of bright Black, Pebbled Cheviot; the costume lined throughout with Taffeta Silk.

AT \$25.00—English Worsteds Suits, in a gray "salt and pepper" effect, strictly man made and the equal in every respect of a \$50 custom-made Costume.

At \$25, \$35 and \$30 a comprehensive showing of Suits that are models of perfect tailoring and elegant materials.

A Box Coat

It is made of light-weight coating cloth, English style, loose back—a style that promises to dominate the fashions in spring wraps. Priced but \$12.50.

Coats and Waists

The bitter cold of Saturday afternoon interfered greatly with the sale of water jackets and silk waists, particularly the waists. Of 43, 28 are still unsold, whereas a bright day would scarcely have left one to end the story. We've added ten from stock and repeat the invitation.

Choose Monday from

SILK WAISTS, formerly \$8.75, \$10, \$12 and \$15, at \$6.75

Of the winter jackets we still hold some three score. Part will be displayed in the window, the rest on tables, second floor.

Panama Suits

This is a tailoring worsted that, except for its lighter weight and decidedly lower price, you'd pronounce English. But it isn't. A Frenchman made it and by some manner of means made it much cheaper than the man across the channel. We show four shades.

French Panama Suits, 50 inches wide, of pure All-wool Worsteds, the yard \$1.50 (In Blue, Gray, Brown and Cadet.)

Another tailoring hardly to be equaled in this vicinity at the price, is a ready-sprung, All-wool, 50-inch Cheviot; We have all the popular colors at \$1.25

Wool Crepes

Soft and clinging as a shadow—a dainty, fashionable, durable and comfortable dress material. None other is so elastic and very few so light weight. For church, reception or party wear it is almost an ideal fabric. Some is of all wool, other weaves have a silk warp. We show both.

Gray, Cadet, Cadet, Tan, Heliotrope and Green are favorite shades.

Three qualities here; two at \$1.35

A pretty Silk Warp one at \$1.85

Foulardettes

A fashion letter in an Indianapolis paper recently devoted half a column to the praise and discussion of this handsome English fabric. It spoke of the material as "Mercerized Foulards," a good designation, for without the invention of Mercer, cotton could not be made to so splendidly counterfeit silk, and "foulard" tells the whole story of their pretty and stylish printing.

Our second importation has arrived—just as the last of the first lot was disappearing.

26 designs, 39c a yard.

Embroidered Swiss

They call it mohair muslin in the East—just why is hard to guess, for it isn't muslin and there's no mohair in its make-up. But whether embroidered swiss or "mohair muslin" there's a wealth of it here that is bewildering in extent.

Half a hundred new styles arrived from their mountain makers last week. Opened for you tomorrow.

Pretty dots and conventional figures, embroidered on to stay, 30-inch width 59c

Finer ones, more elaborate designs, wider widths and parti-colored effects, at 75c, 90c, \$1, \$1.25, \$1.50 and \$2.

Irish Dimities

That you won't find elsewhere; or here either if the present demands continue. Perhaps we've told you that the manager of this wash goods section was a Belfast man. What he don't know about Irish textiles isn't worth learning and what he can't secure in the way of exclusive styles and price concessions isn't worth trying for.

We show, at present, over two hundred pieces of real Belfast Dimities in as many different designs or colorings. They are mostly confined to this store alone. That's as near exclusiveness as one could ask, and it does not advance the price; choice at 25c

American Dimities are just about as numerous, almost as pretty, scarcely less fine and quite a good deal cheaper, a yard 15c and 18c

The Exhibition of Water Color Paintings

Will be continued Monday and Tuesday. The kind compliments of press and public make us wish that it might be continued indefinitely, but several of the paintings are only loaned and must be returned. Such as have been sold reflect a discerning and appreciative taste on the part of the purchasers. If you have need of a picture, this exhibition should not be missed; but if you wish to come just for the pleasure of seeing, consider yourself just as welcome.

While on this third floor it may interest you to see some of the new Draperies. Those Photographs of Swedish Beauties are convenient, too.

Then the Miniature Artist—why multiply words? Come.

Spring Frocks, of Pink and Blue Lawns, are shown for little maids from 2 to 6 years old. Pretty ones at 75c.

More elaborate designs up to \$3.50. All sizes (2 to 12 years) of Puffed Underwaists, prettily trimmed with lace 50c

Umbrella Skirts, in sizes up to 14 years, are shown in a variety rivaling the women's assortment; as low as 50c each, as high as \$2.75.

Silk and Cashmere Toques have been brought out in lighter weights for spring. One style of particular beauty is of pure silk, with a zigzag border in Roman colors.

Furs—Finis

We probably won't mention them again. Profits we wiped out several weeks ago, and what's now left of price would scarcely pay for the uncut pelts. The lot is small, too small to carry to a following season, even if that old-fashioned method prevailed here, which it doesn't. Here's detail:

Two American Seal Collarettes remain that sold at \$35. Each has a six-inch border and tabs of Blue Fox; choice \$17.75

One American Seal Collarette, made in French pattern, with top collar, revers and tails of Brown Marten, has been reduced from \$65 to \$35.00

A similar style to the above, but which earlier sold at \$75, may now be had for \$37.50

One Astrakhan Tab Collarette, with six-inch border of Japan Fox and cluster of Fox Tails, a stylish \$50 garment, now \$35.00

One \$35 Collarette of Gray Lynx is reduced to \$50.00

A Persian Lamb Collarette, with Japan Fox trimming, drops from \$65 to \$45.00

An \$35 Tab Collarette of real Seal, Stone Marten trimmings, is \$55.00

A Persian Lamb and Marten French Collarette, instead of \$65, is now \$60.00

A handsome Mink Cape has been reduced from \$250 to \$130.00

A beautiful Seal Cape, with Marten trimming, that was \$350, is now \$175.00

Besides the above there are five storm collars and a few fine scarfs that are quite as decidedly reduced.

Baby Belongings

There's nothing too good for the baby. This department of infants' wearables is founded on that assumption. She who selects its dainty freight of miniature garments is a mother who appreciates all the points of nicety that are so dear to the hearts of fond parents. She knows when a ruffle is too wide, what lace is too wiry, what styles are graceful and what are not—she knows and she acts on the knowledge of what will please mothers and keep the baby comfortable.

The little frocks for spring and summer have been arriving for a week past. Those in sizes from six months to two years are made with yokes. Three to six-year sizes have waists and trimmed skirts. Both embroidery and lace is used liberally in trimming, while tucks, if possible, are employed more extensively than heretofore. As to prices:

We show pretty White Dresses at \$1.

More elaborate ones of fine Nainsooks and India Linens, embellished with fine lace and embroideries, range in price upward to \$8.

Spring Frocks, of Pink and Blue Lawns, are shown for little maids from 2 to 6 years old. Pretty ones at 75c.

More elaborate designs up to \$3.50. All sizes (2 to 12 years) of Puffed Underwaists, prettily trimmed with lace 50c

Umbrella Skirts, in sizes up to 14 years, are shown in a variety rivaling the women's assortment; as low as 50c each, as high as \$2.75.

Silk and Cashmere Toques have been brought out in lighter weights for spring. One style of particular beauty is of pure silk, with a zigzag border in Roman colors.

The Cashmere ones are almost as pretty and more cheerful; entirely new styles at 60c.

A QUESTION OF THE TIME

THE POLITICAL EFFECTS OF TRANS-CONTINENTAL CANALS.

Author of "The American Commonwealth" on Results That May Follow in the Case of the United States.

At any time but the present the conclusion of a convention varying the provisions of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty of 1850, and thereby opening up the way to control, by the United States, of a transcontinental canal from the Caribbean sea to the Pacific ocean, would have excited the widest and keenest attention in England. It is, no doubt, true, that since the failure of the Lesseps Panama canal scheme, European interest in the piercing of the isthmus has greatly flagged. People hastily assumed that this failure meant the abandonment of the project for a long time to come, and neither the Nicaragua scheme, which has been so much talked of in the United States, nor the Panama scheme revived, on less ambitious lines than those of Lesseps, by a new company, had brought the matter back within the practical horizon of ordinary people in Europe. Now, however, the prospect of a diplomatic obstacle which had stood in the way of political action by the United States has been removed, placed the enterprise at once upon a different level.

It is assumed to be a sign that the United States is seriously thinking of taking up and carrying through the enterprise with resources which will make its completion certain. And the results of that completion must be so momentous that they would receive, as they certainly deserve, the fullest attention in Europe, but for the preoccupation of all minds with the South African war, and with the further complications to which that war may possibly give rise. Things being what they are, little is said in England about the new convention, and though some of our newspapers comment on the fact that no consideration has been given by the United States for the concession by England of what had been held to be a valuable right possessed by her under the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, the general good will towards the United States and the desire to retain the friendship of the American people have contributed, along with the preoccupation already mentioned, to check any complaints that might otherwise have been heard.

It is, of course, not yet known in England what action the United States will be likely to take, now that its hands are freed. But, assuming that it decides to support either the Nicaragua scheme or the Panama scheme, and that a canal will, within the next few years, be constructed and placed under the control of the United States, the consequences for all maritime powers must be far-reaching. They will affect not only the commerce of the world, but also its political relations.

RESULTS FROM THE SUEZ CANAL. In thinking of these consequences one's mind naturally turns to the Suez canal, the only great precedent applicable, and to the consequences for Europe and Asia which have followed from its opening. It was long supposed by Lord Palmerston as likely to be prejudicial to the political interests of Britain as a power with interests both in the Mediterranean and in India. Whether he will prove in the long run to have been right does not yet appear, for England has not since the canal was finished been at war with any European power.

It is commonly assumed that the canal has greatly benefited Britain, because it has undoubtedly stimulated trade with India and because the bulk of trade is carried in British vessels. But there is one point in which it has injured Britain. When cargoes came from India and the farther East around the Cape of Good Hope London and Liverpool were the ports to which they mostly came, and from London or Liverpool they were, unless destined for consumption within the United Kingdom, reshipped to various parts of the European continent. Now, however, the goods destined for the countries which have ports on the Mediterranean instead of going through England come direct from the East to Marseilles or Genoa, or Trieste, or Odessa, and England loses the gain which she formerly had in the handling of these goods. This is an obviously natural result of the opening of a shorter waterway from the Mediterranean to the Orient. But it was, if not absolutely unforeseen, at any rate very little discussed before the opening of the Suez canal. The circumstances of the Panama (or Nicaragua) canal are too different to make a close parallel possible. But the Suez canal may be cited to show how results which the world has not contemplated may flow from a change in the possibilities of sea carriage.

THE SUEZ CANAL AND EGYPT.

What difference the existence of the Suez canal will make in case of a European war we do not yet know. It has been formally neutralized, but how the neutralization will work out in practice remains to be seen. One political result, however, it has already had, a result of the highest importance. It has carried the English into Egypt, and from Egypt into Central Africa. In 1875 Lord Beaconsfield's administration purchased a large number of shares in the canal company, and when troubles subsequently arose in Egypt, troubles which ultimately culminated in the military rising under Arabi Pasha in 1882, the possession of these shares, as well as the interest which England had in the keeping open and control of the short waterway to India, was constantly urged as a reason why she should interfere in Egypt to support the Khedive against his own subjects, and to prevent him from becoming subject to French influences. The intervention of 1882, which by the battle of Tel el Kebir, placed Egypt under British control, would almost certainly not have taken place but for the existence of the canal and the notion that England was bound by her own interests to see to its safety. The occupation of Egypt by British troops has continued from 1882 till to-day, has become far more permanent in its character than it was at first, has intensified the rivalry of England and France, and has led to a nominally Egyptian, but practically British, reconquest of the valley of the Upper Nile. But for the canal, England would not now be at Khartoum and Fashoda, and possibly the East African ambitions are all due to the fact that Lesseps pierced the isthmus of Suez, a result of which neither he, nor the French, nor any one else in the world, had the smallest idea.

CENTRAL AMERICAN CANAL.

Such an instance shows how impossible it is to predict the political consequences which may follow from the piercing of the American isthmus. Yet there is one consequence which is so much in the line of historical development that it may be deemed, if not certain, yet at any rate highly probable. A canal constructed and controlled by the United States government will of course draw a considerable number of American officials to settle at its two ends and along its banks. The vast trade which will pass through it will lead to the growth of towns, and the upper class of the population in those towns will come from the United States. The line of the canal will before long be practically a detached part of the United States territory, and from it various commercial and industrial enterprises will tend to spread into the adjoining districts. The United States will therefore have material and political interests to care for and to protect in a region which has hitherto remained undeveloped, despite great natural resources, because it has been in the hands of a backward and sluggish population, very ignorant, very superstitious, and apparently incapable of developing free and progressive institutions. Nominally, these Central American states, like most of the South American states, have been for the last half century mere military tyrannies. Even without a transcontinental canal, it is likely that in course of time the great civilized and progressive power of the North American continent would have acquired control over these regions, because the United States has a surplus of population, which her western lands will not always be able to absorb, and is beginning to have a surplus of capital, which will seek fields for its own employment beyond the range of its own dominion. There was, therefore, always a probability that through industry and commerce United States influence would begin to dominate Central America, and eventually result in some kind of political supremacy.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE. The great obstacle to such a development lay in the dangers to the political system of the United States itself, which the acquisition of countries peopled by inferior races must involve, and in the long-settled maxim which forbade the Republic to embark on a policy of conquest and annexation where the country to be conquered could not be settled by her own citizens and incorporated into her own system as an equal member, filled by a population like that which fills the existing States. This maxim, however, seems to have been now abandoned, or, at any rate, disregarded; witness the annexation of Hawaii and Porto Rico and the occupation of the Philippine Islands, not to speak of Cuba, whose future remains undetermined. It may accordingly be conjectured that the old principles which would have deterred the United States from acquisitions in Central America will be less potent hereafter than they have been heretofore. Thus the field is left open for the operation of that general law under which the stronger and more progressive races spread out over their former seats into the territories occupied by the weaker and more backward races, and end by absorbing the latter or reducing them to subjection. Even without the construction of a transcontinental canal this might, in the course of ages, have been expected to happen in Central America.

The settlement in Central America of immigrants, energetic and restless people from the United States, and the political authority which the policing of the canal (even assuming that authority does not go further than policing) obviously involves, are likely to accelerate this natural process, and may within a few decades bring about results which would otherwise have come far later. And it may be remarked that the field is far clearer in America than it was in Egypt, where the rivalries of the great European powers opposed obstacles there to the predominance of any single one among them which do not exist in Nicaragua or Costa Rica or Colombia. Had De Lesseps and the French succeeded in making the Panama canal the problem would have been less simple.

The piercing of continents, with the change thereby involved in the geographical conditions which nature gave to man when he became civilized enough to make ocean voyages, has been usually considered from the point of view of its results upon commerce. Those results have been great in the case of the Suez canal, and will evidently be great in the case of one which traverses the American isthmus. They will affect the trade of England with her Australian colonies as well as the trade of the eastern United States with the Pacific. But, as the extent of the Suez canal, the political consequences may prove to be, if not immediately, yet within the lifetime of men now living, even more momentous. Nor will they affect Central America only. They may spread further to the south. And should they follow the line which has been indicated as not improbable they will affect the whole policy of the United States, and may make the Republic something very different from what its founders contemplated. JAMES BRUCE.

A SUNNY CITY OF SPAIN

SEVILLE, AN OLD MOORISH CAPITAL ON THE GUADALQUIVIR.

Most Interesting in History, Art and Architecture—Traces and Traditions of "Pedro the Cruel."

Correspondence of the Indianapolis Journal.

SEVILLE, Spain, Jan. 21.—He who has not seen Seville has missed seeing a wonder in a proverb which its citizens delight in. The same might be truthfully said of other Spanish cities; but this Andalusian capital differs from the rest, with a warmth and gaiety of life peculiarly its own, and abounding reminiscences of the noble and cultured Moors, whose palaces and villas were unlike those in any other part of the world. Through five hundred years it was their sacred city, in which they gathered all that wealth could buy or fashion design, or bravery win. Its splendid mosques were crowded with worshippers of the Prophet, when from the lofty Giralda the muzzel called the faithful to prayer; its schools were thronged with eager students in science and the arts; and in its glorious Alcazar—(Al-Kasr, "House of Caras"), were gathered the statesmen, warriors and courtiers of a great and powerful people. All this begun in the eighth century, and ended more than two hundred years before the Western world was discovered; but many of the Moorish palaces are still intact and the glories of that long-past period have left an indelible impression upon the whole region of the Guadalquivir.

Long, long before the day of the Moors Seville was old and gray, its foundations having been laid in the morning twilight of history by Hercules himself. If anybody doubts the tradition, he may be reassured by reading a quaint inscription carved above one of the city gates, which asserts that Hercules was the founder, and that Julius Caesar captured it from the Carthaginians more than half a century before Christ was born. We know that much of the wealth for which Tyre and Sidon were renowned, was derived from the region of the Baetis—the Guadalquivir of to-day—a land of promise, especially protected by the gods and coveted by men. Its marvels figured prominently in classic mythology, as related by Homer, Herodotus, Cicero and others. It was on the island of Juno, you remember, near the river's mouth, sixty miles or so below this point, where Geryon pastured his flocks.

A CITY OF HISTORY.

The chief city of Baetia, which the Carthaginians called Sephelia and the Romans Hispalis, became a rich and powerful capital under Julius Caesar, who changed its name to Julia Corduba, in grateful recognition of its aid during his wars with Pompey. It was the seat of the provincial nobility. Three Roman emperors were born here—Trajan, Adrian and Theodosius. At the foot of the olive-covered hills, five miles away, Scipio built a splendid pleasure resort, with a spacious amphitheater and many sumptuous residences. Like other Roman cities in Spain, the ruins of these have served as a quarry for generations of subsequent builders. Scipio's amphitheater may yet be clearly traced, though its walls and those of adjacent palaces went to make a modern break-water in the Guadalquivir, to furnish building material for neighboring convents, and even to pave the streets of Seville. Many of the busts and statues of Caesar's time now grace the Spanish museums and the palaces of grandees, and the very pavements you walk upon to-day may have been trodden by "the noblest Roman of them all" in the ancient city. A portion of the double stone walls which Julius Caesar built around his capital are yet standing. Destroyed by barbarians, and flanking the city, they look as formidable as when they repelled the attacks of barbarians, though scarred by the storms and wars of twenty centuries.

Most of the walls, however, that to-day surround Seville, are of Moslem building, their six or eight miles in circuit pierced by fifteen enormous gateways, and surrounded by sixty-six watch towers. In the days of the caliphs there were 106 of these quaint towers; but when "The Holy King Saint Ferdinand" drove out the infidel (in the year 1248) the wall was demolished. In this way climate the passing centuries have made little impression on the old Moorish houses, which are still the best in Seville. The Moors, by the way, discarded the Roman name, undertook to resume its remote Chaldean title, Sephelia, but in their harsher tongue rendered it Sibidia; which has been corrupted to the present name, pronounced by the Spaniards, Sah-vel-yah. Fully half the city preserves its ancient character, but, sad to say, changes are taking place every year. The narrow, winding, haphazard streets, completely overshadowed by spacious mansions with their courts and gardens, so admirably suited to the summer climate of this "Oven of Spain," as the section is called, are slowly, but alas, too surely giving way to wide, unpicturesque avenues, with alleged "improvements" in their small, hot, commonplace houses, open to the noonday blaze. In the Moorish quarters, where the forethought of the builders made the streets so narrow that two carriages could not possibly pass one another, barriers are placed at each end, to prevent wheeled vehicles from attempting to enter. In some of them an ordinary umbrella, when raised, will barely clear the walls in turning their zigzag corners, and donkeys filing through in solemn procession jostle pedestrians in their bulging panniers. The names of the streets are in themselves an interesting study, having reference to some celebrated personage who once lived in them, or an historical event that transpired in the neighborhood. The word calle (street) never appears, but merely the name, as "Murillo," "Juan de Mina," "Abu-l-Kasim," "Auto-de-Fe," etc. As in Oriental communities, the different sects are separated; the Jews being restricted to one quarter, the Moors to another, the gypsies to a third.

A PICTURESCAPE PLACE.

The wide, spacious mansions, with their cool courts and gardens and walls almost meeting overhead in the winding alleys, are as charming as unique, and prove the wisdom of the shade-loving Moors. They are generally ornamented with Moorish tilework, called azulejos, and have an entrance arch called El Zaguan (Arabian, Sahab), which leads to the cloister or great gate or open-work iron, behind which the family life goes on, securely locked from the public gaze. The interior walls always inclose patios, or open courts, surrounded on all sides by wide corridors supported